

3

# *What Things?*

O R, A N

IMPARTIAL INQUIRY

What Things are so,

A N D

What Things are not so,

[Price Sixpence.]



# *What Things?*

O R, A N

K

1490 p 94

## IMPARTIAL INQUIRY

What THINGS are so,

AND

What THINGS are not so.

Occasioned by two late POEMS,

The one intitled,

*Are these Things so?* [by Rev James Miller]

And the other intitled,

Yes, they are.

---

*Rectum & tenacem Propositi Virum,  
Non civium ardor, prava jubentium,—*

---

L O N D O N:

Printed for J. ROBERTS in *Warwick-Lane*;  
and sold at the Pamphlet-Shops in *London*  
and *Westminster*. MDCCXL.

[Price Sixpence.]



IMPARTIAL

What things are for

AND

What things are not for

Goodness for two poor POETRY

The one is for

the other for

the one is for

the other for

the one is for

the other for

the one is for

the other for

the one is for

the other for





A N  
IMPARTIAL INQUIRY  
What THINGS are so,

AND  
What THINGS are not so.

**A**RE *these Things so?* was a Question proposed by the persecuting blood-thirsty Jewish High-Priest, to the Proto-Martyr St. Stephen; and his false Witnesses were very ready to say and swear, *Yes, they are.* And when they could not bear to hear the Truths spoken by St. Stephen, *they stopped their Ears,* and in great Fury murdered him.

*Are these Things so?* is a Question now proposed by some Emissary of the Popish High-Priest, possibly some Monk from his Cell, to one of his Majesty's faithful Protestant Ministers; The Popish Zealots, not only

in their Garrets, but also amidst misguided Mobbs, are very ready to cry out, *Yes, they are*; and then stopping their Ears, are ready for all Acts of Violence.

But what are the Things that give these People such great Offence? Let us strip these Wolves of their Sheeps Cloathing, and it will soon appear they are too like the wicked unbelieving Children of *Israel*. They were a very obstinate People, and especially when in the wrong, and greatly ungrateful to their best Benefactors and Deliverers; and this they could not bear to hear of from *St. Stephen*, who mentioned to them several Instances thereof.

Such hath been the continual Behaviour of a restless wicked Sett of Men amongst us, for many Years. The Reformation from the wicked Follies of the Church of *Rome* is what they could never bear, and in their Hearts they have been always inclined to return to that worse than *Egyptian* Bondage; and altho' they could not prevent the several Deliverances this Nation has been favoured with, yet they always abused and  
opposed



opposed our Deliverers; and with great Craftiness have drawn in many discontented, and some of them well-meaning People, to join with them in Measures to distress our Deliverers, and prevent, as much as might be, their good Designs from taking effect; and this under various specious, but false Pretences, of taking care of the Liberty of the People and of the Rights of the Church: and sometimes called themselves, the *Landed Interest*; at other times, the *Country Party*; and at length, have endeavoured to appropriate to themselves the Name of *Patriots*.

With what Libels was the Great Queen *Elizabeth*, and the Lord *Burleigh* her wise and faithful Minister abused! And upon her Demise, new Hopes were conceived of bringing the good People of this Land again into Temporal and Spiritual Slavery; and artful designing Clergymen were very ready to compliment the Crown with the Liberties of the Subject, in hopes thereby to establish an absolute independent Ecclesiastick Power. Then high Notions of Loyalty, and the foolish Schemes of Non-Resistance and Passive-Obedience, were most industriously propagated,

and in the Compass of a few Years, threw all things into the utmost Confusion.

Things at the Restoration returning by Degrees to their old Channel, the busy Emissaries of *Rome* were endeavouring to aggrandize the Power of the Crown in prospect of a bigotted Papist's coming to the Enjoyment thereof, and in hopes that by him, the Nation might be again subject to the *Roman* Pontiff's Yoke; and upon King *James's* succeeding to the Crown, their wicked Projects were very near being completed.

Then happily arose a Deliverer, who freed us from the great and imminent Danger we were in, of being swallowed up with Popery and Slavery, and for a little while we rejoiced in the Freedom and Protection he gave us. But how soon did our pretended Patriots begin their Opposition to all the salutary Measures he took for the publick Good? Many wicked Designs were formed against his very valuable Life, and altho' Providence preserved him from those barbarous Plots of Men that pretended themselves  
great

great Friends to the Church of *England*, yet his Hands were so greatly weakned, that he might well say, *He was not King in Israel, the Sons of Zeruah were too hard for him*. Many Persons that were angry, because they had not the Places and Preferments they expected, became the Tools of his open and professed Enemies, and joined all their Interest with them, to make our glorious Deliverer weary, and to disappoint all his Designs for our Welfare. No sooner was he taken from us, but the Party entertained fresh Hopes of compassing their wicked Designs, and thought the Game pretty sure under the Administration of his Successor; especially as many of their great Friends then became possessed of considerable Employments. They soon shewed what they would have, but by the wise Management of the Ministers first employ'd by *Queen Anne*, were for many Years disappointed; and then with what Rancour and Virulence were those truly great Patriots traduced and abused? and the Affairs under their Management being attended with great Prosperity and Success, our Enemies resolved to try another Course, and Religion was the Stalking-



Stalking-Horse; the *Diana* of the *Ephesians*, the Cry of *the Church, the Church*, they thought would make a general Uproar, and a wicked impudent Parson (I will not say of the Church of *England*, he surely belong'd to another Church on the other side of the Water) was the Trumpet to blow the Alarm: And this, industriously seconded by many others of the same Disposition, made a very great Ferment in the Nation, and prepared the same for a Rebellion, if their Arts at Court did not succeed. This mighty Champion made a Progress over *England*, and in a riotous manner was carried from Place to Place, attended with the Huzzas of the unthinking Multitude, inflamed with various false and scandalous Misrepresentations of the true Friends of the Nation: Succeeding at the same time with the then Queen, in their Representations of the pretended Right of him, whom they falsely called her Brother; a sad Catastrophe of Affairs ensued, and the *British* Nation, from the Height of its Glory, sunk to ——— as a very worthy Bishop said, our Enemies will tell it with Pleasure. Then the glorious Doctrines of *Non-Resistance* and *Passive Obedience*

*Obedience*, in all their Forms and dismal Consequences, became triumphant; and nothing was thought too great to be granted to the Crown, which they thought their young Master would soon wear.

But behold another Disappointment! Heaven saw and prevented the intended Mischief, and took away the Queen, just at the critical Time. Baffled and enraged thereat, how soon do these great Patrons of Non-Resistance and Passive-Obedience, form and countenance a most horrible Rebellion, and openly attack the undoubted Right of his present Majesty's Family: Millions of malicious Lyes were dispersed amongst the thoughtless Multitude, and nothing neglected that might tend to involve us in Scenes of Blood and Desolation.

These wicked Attempts being defeated, the restless Party resolve to bark if they cannot bite, and used unwearied Diligence to obstruct every thing that tended to the publick Good; rejoicing in every thing that looked like a Prejudice to their Country, in hopes by that means to breed an ill Opinion in the People of his late, and present Majesty,



Majesty, and their faithful Servants: and of a sudden, from being the greatest Advocates for the Power of the Crown, pretended a mighty Zeal for the Liberties of the People. Strange Converts! that in one Reign would make the Prince Absolute, and in the succeeding Reign would make him only a Doge of *Venice*. But are their Minds changed? No, by no means. They should, but dare not yet speak out. The Reason of the whole is, they have another King, for whom they reserve their Obedience; and, wretched Ingrates as they are, notwithstanding all the Indulgence and Mercy they have received from the unparallel'd Goodness of his late and present Majesty, go on plotting the Destruction of this truly Royal Family. What Arts have been used to procure and continue a Disaffection to his present Majesty's Person and Government? In what Colours hath he been represented, and yet where is the Subject he hath in the least injured? Hath he not been a tender and loving Father of his People? Have not all Persons enjoy'd freely their Rights to the utmost Extent, in a manner unknown in the Reigns of former Kings, whose Actions

are

are now so much magnified ? He hath shewn himself truly the Vicegerent of the Almighty, by doing good to all, and shewing on all proper occasions, Mercy and Compassion ; that thereby, if possible, his Enemies might be brought to Repentance and a Sense of their own true Interest.

After a long and terrible War, and a most unnatural Rebellion\*, a joyful Time of Peace ensued ; in which Trade flourished, and we grew rich, and great Treasures came in yearly, especially from *Spain* and *Portugal* ; a sad Sight to those who wished our Destruction, but a Gleam of Hope arises to them, that the ambitious enterprizing Queen *Spain*, they hope, will create new Disturbances. If we sit still, that is represented as want of Care of the Interest of the Nation ; if we engage in War, that is called a needless imbroiling ourselves in fresh Troubles.

The late King of *France* made War for his Glory, but 'tis not for the Interest of our King or Nation, whose great Support is Trade, to make War for our Glory. 'Tis

C

not

\* In 1715.

not for any Nation to make War, unless upon very just Cause; and it may be Prudence, and greatly for the Good of the Publick, to bear some Injuries without entering into a War to procure Satisfaction. And it must be always left to those that have the Reins of Government, to judge of the Expedience of such a desperate Remedy: And as none are infallible, 'tis sufficient if therein they have acted with Integrity and a View to the publick Good, altho' all their Actions should not be crowned with the Success expected. 'Tis an old Maxim, that *it is much easier to find fault than amend*; and I am sure it is easier when things are past to see Mistakes, than it is to advise for the Future. Many Events continually arise that the greatest human Wisdom cannot foresee or provide for, and therefore we are not altogether to judge of Counsels by the Success thereof.

About the Year 1719, the Queen of Spain began to execute some of the great Designs she had formed, and having broke thro' the Treaty of *Utrecht*, his late Majesty's Hands were at Liberty to put a Stop  
to

to the growing Power of *Spain*; and accordingly the late Lord *Torrington* attack'd and destroy'd the *Spanish* Fleet: and what Clamour ensued thereon? not really because the Action was wrong, but in reality because the *Chevalier's* Friend and Ally was thereby weakened and brought to submit to reasonable Terms. From that Time we have flourished in Peace, tho' not without Clouds that threatned Storms, which made it proper for us to arm, and be in a Capacity of waging War, if necessary to engage therein. And then how were his Majesty and his Ministers ridiculed and abused, because they did not rashly begin a War? As if to a trading Nation, War were more eligible than Peace.

The Preparations made for War gave such Force to the Negotiations then on foot, as produced the *Convention*, about which so great a Noise hath been made.

Great Clamours had some time before arose on account of *Depredations* committed by the *Spanish Guarda Costas* in the *West-Indies*, which, according to the Representations

tations of the Sufferers themselves, amounted to about 300000 *l.* in the space of ten Years ; and some of those Depredations were committed with such Acts of Inhumanity, as are frequently practised by the *Spaniards*. What Provocations were given to them, or how far the Sufferers were concerned in an illicit Trade, doth not appear ; but 'tis to be feared our People were not so free from Faults as they represented themselves, and even at home 'tis hard to form a right Judgment without hearing both Parties : And I think the whole Loss did not amount to a tenth Part of what during that Time we got in trading with *Spain*. However, this Convention being agreed to, was like to prevent a Rupture with *Spain*, and therefore great Pains were taken that the same should not be approved by the Parliament ; and the *Spanish* Ambassador had often Hints given him thereof ; and then our Enemies would have a fine Prospect of a Quarrel with *Spain*, from which they promised themselves great Advantages, especially as then a Failure would begin on our Part. No Stone is left unturn'd to accomplish this End ; the Citizens of *London* are immediately drawn

in



in to condemn it, altho' most of them knew nothing of the Matter; and an Address is agreed on, not by the Merchants, but by the Common-Council of the City of *London*, and presented to the House of Commons against the Convention; and the unwary Citizens were work'd up to a very great Rage about this Matter. This Project also fail'd them; how madly have they acted since, both in City and Country; especially in the City what Lengths have they gone, without Shame or Remorse?

Now let us see the sad Consequences of this Opposition; the Court of *Spain*, encouraged by these Divisions amongst us, and at the Instance of their Friends here, refused to perform their Part of this Convention, and by these Means the War our Enemies at home so much desired, became unavoidable. And that the same might not prove successful, the Seeds of Sedition were every-where sown, and no Pains spared to make a general Discontent.

The *Jacobites* and pretended Patriots, altho' bitter Enemies to the Protestant Dis-  
sensors

senters in *England*, chiefly on account of their Steadiness to the Protestant Religion, and from an Apprehension that as they scruple to consent to decent Forms and Ceremonies, they never will submit to the wicked, ridiculous and superstitious Practices and Ceremonies of the Church of *Rome*; yet began to cajole these Dissenters, in hopes thereby to strengthen their Party. And altho' the Dissenters had often felt the cruel Effects of their Severity, yet on a sudden they pretended great Friendship for them, and put them on demanding the Repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, and some of the Dissenters unwarily fell into the Snare.

The Nation undoubtedly suffers greatly by those Acts of Paliament, and every honest considerate Man may possibly wish the same were never made: The one was owing to the Fury of the Times, but the other, I believe, was of the Dissenters own procuring; and the Engine they designed against the *Roman* Catholicks hath ever since been made use of against themselves. And in truth, however good Subjects they may be, 'tis certain they are very bad Politicians; and



and 'tis very imprudent for them to stir in that Affair at this Juncture of Time, and to endeavour by such false Friends to procure to themselves any Favour or Relief. It were heartily to be wished there were more Love and Harmony amongst Protestants, and a greater Union against the common Enemy; and by degrees, it is probable, they may abate severally of their Warmth and Stiffness, and be convinced of the Reasonableness of yielding to one another. And therefore it is neither for the Interest of the Dissenters or the Good of the Publick, to revive any Animosities; and however well disposed his Majesty's Ministers may be to remedy those Evils, 'tis not now a time to do any thing that may occasion any new Feuds that may arise from a mistaken Zeal for the Church of *England*, and imaginary Fears of its Danger. The Dissenters at present have all reasonable Protection and Encouragement, and may be assured, when it is consistent with the publick Welfare and Safety, the Grievances the Nation suffers by those two Acts of Parliament, will be redressed. And it is to be wish'd and hoped for by all true Lovers of their Country, that the Dissenters will  
in

in the mean time support and encourage the laudable Designs of his Majesty and his faithful Ministers, against all their secret and open Enemies ; and by their steady Adherence to his Majesty's Person and Government, contribute to the quieting of the Minds of many of his Majesty's well-meaning, but greatly misguided Subjects : And such their Behaviour will very probably have so good an Effect, as may enable their real Friends, with the Consent of the Church of *England*, to abolish those Acts of Parliament as greatly prejudicial to the Kingdom, and in some respect dishonourable to Religion itself.

Another wicked Artifice made use of by these pretended Patriots, is the writing and dispersing most scandalous Libels, reflecting highly upon his Majesty's Person and Government ; sometimes in the Shape of pretended Sermons, other times in Pieces of Poetry, doggrel Songs, and weekly or daily Papers, stuffed with Lyes and virulent Invectives ; and amongst the rest are the two Poems intituled, *Are these things so?* and, *Yes, they are.* They are both wrote with a Pen

Pen dipped in the bitterest Gall. The first Author begins with a great Commendation of himself, as a Person free from Ambition, Avarice, Vanity, Care, Pride or Luxury; without Rancour, Party or Pique; bestowing his Time in the best manner, only with Wisdom and Virtue, and her Friends. But how soon does he give himself the Lye, and shews himself full of Ill-Nature, Scandal and exquisite Malice? Hermit as he is, or pretends to be, the *Roman Antichrist* hath in his Breast the greatest Part; and what are all his Questions but Suppositions of great Mismanagement and Corruption? and for the Proof thereof we are to take his Word; *in verbo Sacerdotis*, it is true. But, low as we are fallen, by the continual Attempts that are made to divide us, we are not yet Slaves or Dupes of *Rome*: Our Senate still maintains its Freedom; and notwithstanding all the Arts or Menaces of the Author or his Friends, still can, and will disappoint all their subtil and wicked Designs. Against the Virulence of this Emissary of *Rome*, the sacred Character of the Fathers of the Church is no Defence. His impious Pen scruples

D

not

not falsely to charge them with most detestable Crimes, for opposing what he calls the *Patriot Band*. With what unexampled Insolence doth he then proceed to insinuate as if it were unsafe for a Man to endeavour to check Corruption's Swing, or to serve his King and Country; that Honour, Dignity and Rule are to be the Portion of some Titled Fool, or of a Relation of the Man he represents as an Enemy to his King and Country? Sure he means some other King and Country, to which the Author belongs, and not this Country and our most gracious Sovereign King *George* the Second; and thinks none have Virtue or Honour but those that belong to the *Chevalier's* Court or the See of *Rome*. He next proceeds, with gross Flattery, to applaud Admiral *Vernon*; and would persuade us, that whoever doth not go the same Lengths, does lessen and profane the godlike Man. But why so much Fondness in this Author and his Accomplices, for this brave and honest Admiral? not because they love him, or are pleased

pleased with what he did, but in hopes to make Divisions, and to procure his Ruin : and to that End, with great Industry, Honours are to be done him beyond what ever were given to the greatest and most deserving Subject. The King and his Ministers are sensible of whatever real Services are done to our Country, and are ready to bestow suitable Rewards ; and need not the Direction of busy, ignorant, hot-headed Persons, that know very little of the Truth of Transactions, but are worked up by ill-designing Men, to commit unwarrantable Actions. This I say not to lessen the Merit of the Admiral's Actions, which, when duely considered, want not this foolish Applause ; and, I believe, the Admiral will not thank them for the same : And if these Emissaries cannot make him their Tool, we shall soon find they will abuse him more than ever they extolled him.

With what Rancour doth the Author cry out of open Rapine, dark Treachery, Luxury,



Want, Locusts and Mildew, and Plagues worse than those of *Egypt*, arising from what he calls the all-corrupting Hand? All Fictions of a fertile and malignant Brain. Charges of such a Nature should be particular as to Facts, and supported with plain and positive Proofs, otherwise all impartial Persons must look upon them as infamous Scandal, and what every wise, honest and good Man is liable to, and therefore not to be regarded. And what a ridiculous Speech does he then make for this hated Minister of State: Indeed the whole's a slanderous Picture drawn in Soot and Gall. The Author and his Friends dare not openly charge the Minister with these Crimes, as knowing their Accusations to be false and groundless; and therefore are tender of naming the Person, or making direct Charges of particular Facts, but deal in Generals, and by Hints and Innuendo's describe the Person whom they vilify, and conceal their own Names for fear of being brought to condign Punishment.

nishment. And if the Minister will not quit all his Places and submit to be tried by his Enemies, then this Author would have us conclude, 'tis because the Charges he brings against him are true. Strange Inference! that a Person who hath for many Years, with Honour and Reputation served his King and Country, is to quit all because abused greatly by a nameless Scribbler. The Laws are open, and Justice is denied no Man; let the Accusers therefore stand forth, and they will be heard: but that they dare not, well knowing the Things they alledge to be false and groundless, and that an Examination thereof would ruin their Cause.

However, this Minister of State must die, and the Author is so kind as to frame an *Epitaph* for his Tomb, that hath something of Rhyme and more of Rancour, but hath neither Wit nor Reason in it. Certain it is, this truly worthy Patriot, tho' hated greatly by the Author and those that employ



ploy him, is advanced in Years, and having served his Generation, will fall asleep; and wherever his Tomb may be, or whatever Epitaph may adorn it, his Memory will be preserved amongst the \**Cecils*, the †*Montagues*, and the †*Godolphins*, the deathless Worthies of our Nation. And while he lives, his great and wise Master, whom he hath always faithfully served (however this bold Author and his wretched Crew, driven by Despair, may rear their slanderous Tongues) will protect his injured Minister, and is not to be deceived by the vain Compliments this Author puts a Force upon himself to make to his Majesty, whom he hates, and whose Ruin he seeks, and for that reason in such egregious manner abuses *the Man the King delights to honour*.

But what says—the Answer of the Garretter? He ecchoes back the other's Calumnies, and appears, notwithstanding all the Commendations he gives himself, to be as full

\* Lord Burleigh.  
Godolphin.

† Earl of Halifax.

† Earl of

full of Venom, and desirous to spread the Contagion. *Are these Things so?* says one; *Yes, they are,* cries the other. Since *Rome* hath lost *Great Britain*, how hath she mourned over the Loss? and, Thanks to Heaven, altho' our Welfare much depends on our most gracious Sovereign's Life, our Fate depends not on a single Thread, his Majesty (whom God long preserve) hath a large and noble Progeny, that promise to us Blessings in Ages to come, and are the Envy and the Hate of *Rome*: And as the Fate of *Great Britain* is not, so I hope it never will be, to be ruled by Storks and Loggs. May the *Infallible Church* keep all its Loggs or Images, and all her Storks and Monkish Cormorants to itself.

The Garretteer proceeds to answer all the other's Questions in the Affirmative, and tells us, that to our Foes we are by our Natives betray'd: That is too true, for this hath been the continual Practice of the Garretteer

retteer and his Accomplices, and by that means many Thousands of brave Lives have been lost, and many Millions spent.

The Garretteer also, in most scurrilous and unexampled manner, abuses the Right Reverend Lords the Bishops; and goes on to retail the Scandals of the Monk, and to call hard Names very plentifully; and to advise the Man who hath hitherto been too hard for all the secret and open Enemies of his Country, both at home and abroad, at last, in Complaisance to his Enemies, to destroy himself. I hope the Case of these Complainers is become desperate, and if they should some of them make use of that Remedy that often attends defeated Rage and Despair, the World will have no loss of them.

Thus have I at large stated the great Controversy between this wretched discontented Tribe, and this real Well-wisher to the Protestant Religion, our Protestant King,

King, and his Illustrious Family; and I think 'tis easy to see the Reasons why their Darts are so much levelled at that able and faithful Minister, whom his Majesty is pleased to trust so much with the Administration of Affairs.

The Facts before-mentioned are true and undeniable, and there are a stiff-neck'd Set of People who always did, and do oppose the publick Good, and are set upon Mischief; that make Divisions continually, and love to fish in Troubled Waters.

Does it not therefore behove every true Lover of his King and Country, to exert himself on this Occasion, to prevent the Effects of this evil Spirit that is gone forth in this Nation, and is so much encouraged by our Enemies. Let us therefore cordially unite our selves, and have done with all those invidious Distinctions of *Court-Interest* and *Country-Interest*, *Placemen* and *Patriots*,

E

knowing

knowing that the Court neither hath, nor pursues any other Interest, but the Good of this Country of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; and that all Opposition of the Country to the Court, however designed, can tend only to the Interest of a foreign Court. Let us no longer be the Tools of Foreigners, whose Interest and Aim it is to divide, and thereby destroy us. Let us all endeavour to amend our selves in our private Lives, and to strengthen the Hands of his Majesty and his faithful Servants; and then we may reasonably hope, that all Opposition will fall before us; and our Enemies abroad finding us freed from domestick Jarrs, and feeling the Effects of our united Power, will submit to make a lasting Peace, upon such reasonable Terms as may effectually secure us in our fair and lawful Trade, from all Insults and Depredations whatsoever.

How should I and every true *Briton* be rejoiced, if we could say, *These Things are so.*  
'Tis



'Tis in our own Power to make them so, and if we are not wanting to ourselves they will be so. Let us therefore, who are true Protestants, abound in Loyalty to our most gracious Sovereign, Love to each other, and steady united Endeavours to promote the publick Welfare : And let Hatred, Malice, Strife, Calumny, and the rest of that infernal Tribe, be for ever banished from our Breasts ; and in their room may Justice, Honour, Peace, Obedience and Charity, and all the Graces that adorned the Golden Age, for ever dwell in our Land ; and then we shall be the *happiest People* under the *best of Princes*.

F I N I S.



11/60

2482

(12)

R<sup>2</sup>, B-D<sup>4</sup>, E<sup>2</sup>

NM/1-

It is in our power to make them so  
and if we are not willing to contribute  
will be so. Let us therefore, who are the  
beneficiaries, abound in loyalty to our most  
generous Government. Let us each other, and  
steadily united Endeavour to promote the  
public Welfare: And let Heaven, Mother  
State, Country, and the rest of that infer-  
nal World, let us ever be purified from our  
iniquities; and in the name of Justice, the  
new, Peace, Obedience and Obedience, and  
all the Graces that attend the Christian  
for ever dwell in us: and then we  
shall be the happy



W. I. R.